

telling lies

A Bible Study by
Blessed Magazine
Ministries

Are They Ever Okay?

Will God Ever Excuse a Lie?

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Will God Ever Excuse a Lie?



I'm going to list three things and one of them is not true. Let's see which one you can identify as the untruth (lie).

1. I recorded a song in a studio and put it up for sale in a store called Hastings
2. I trained people how to book reservations for Caesars Entertainment
3. I once had a cat as a pet, but it was poisoned and died

Can you identify which statement is the lie?

Let's do a self examination test about lying. This is for your information only and you're at liberty to share or not within this Bible Study. Make sure you have a pen and paper to record your answers. Let's begin:

How to score yourself: For true, record a T. For maybe, record an M and for false, record an F.

1. I have lied about my health to get sympathy or attention.
2. I will say whatever is needed to impress someone, even if it means making up things about myself to appear more worldly, cool, or knowledgeable.
3. I tell different versions of the same lie to various others.
4. I tell lies for no reason
5. Some lies I tell are unnecessary
6. Sometimes I lie without recognizing it's a lie
7. I know when I am lying
8. I'll lie to not offend someone
9. I've lied to get out of something
10. I've lied to avoid something
11. I've lied to just move on from an unpleasant situation
12. I've exaggerated some stories just because
13. I've lied to cover up another lie I've told
14. I've lied and then forgot that I've lied
15. I feel the same when I'm lying as I do when I'm telling the truth.
16. I'm actually good at lying
17. No one really knows or can tell when I am lying
18. The lies I tell are very detailed and complex.
19. If I'm caught in a lie, it doesn't really bother me
20. If I'm caught in a lie, it bothers me a lot
21. God will excuse a lie I tell if it's to save my life
22. God will excuse a lie I tell if it's to save someone's life
23. God will excuse a lie I tell if it's to not cause harm to someone
24. God will excuse a lie I tell if it's to get what I need

Looking at your tally, do you have more T's than F's?

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This self-examination test about lying is not meant to be a diagnosis, but a reality check for those who may be concerned. This test is not meant to embarrass or intimidate anyone.

Before we deal with the results of the self examination, let's explore how God feels about lying. God doesn't like lying. Let me take it a step further: God hates lying. Proverbs 6 lists seven things God hates, and it's worth noting that two of them refer to dishonesty: "There are six things the Lord hates – no, seven things he detests: haughty eyes, a lying tongue, hands that kill the innocent, a heart that plots evil, feet that race to do wrong, a false witness who pours out lies, a person who sows discord in a family" (verses 16–19 NLT).

Why is God so adamantly opposed to lying? Because it's so destructive. In the book of Proverbs we're told, "Telling lies about others is as harmful as hitting them with an ax, wounding them with a sword, or shooting them with a sharp arrow" (25:18 NLT).

From this we could safely conclude that God hates lying in any form. He hates it because he is the source of all truth. In fact, God used that word to describe his very character. Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life" (John 14:6 NLT). When God chose a word to describe who he is, he said, "I am ... the truth" (emphasis mine).

In dramatic contrast, Satan is identified as "the father of lies" (John 8:44 NLT). It's as clear as day: God is truth, and Satan is the father of lies. Therefore when we lie, we are behaving more like the children of the devil than the children of God.

Are you lying about something or someone right now? Do you have a résumé that isn't honest or a credit application stating facts about your income you know is incorrect? Do you find that you give exaggerated reports of what you've done? Are you lying about someone else to tear them down and make yourself look better? That is a sin before God.

God doesn't say, however, that if you have ever told a lie, you can't worship him. If that were the case, none of us could worship him. We have all lied in one way, shape, or form. At the same time, if you are practicing deceit, if you are continuing to tell lies, then it will hinder your fellowship with God. It's offensive to him.

You might say, "Lying isn't a problem in my life. I never lie." Actually, you may lie a little more often than you think you do.

1. One way people lie is by gossip and backbiting. Gossip is a powerful force. It wrecks marriages. It ruins careers. It topples governments. It destroys reputations. It spawns suspicion. It generates grief. Even the very word hisses when it's pronounced. And if you've ever had someone gossip about you and tell lies about you, then you know how painful it can be.

Sometimes a little bit of truth is presented with a lot of lies added to it. The tabloids do this.

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They'll include a shred of truth to give their article a believability factor, but then they fill it with all kinds of lies.

2. Sometimes people rationalize gossip. They'll present it in ways like, "Have you heard?" or "Did you know?" or "I don't believe it's true, but I heard ..." or "I wouldn't tell you, but I know it won't go any further. ..." Then there's the so-called spiritual version: "I'm telling you this only so you can pray. ..." It's gossip. Proverbs 20:19 says, "A gossip goes around telling secrets, so don't hang around with gossipers".
3. Another way people lie is through flattery. While backbiting is saying behind a person's back what we would never say to their face, flattery is the opposite. Flattery is saying things to a person's face that we would never say behind his or her back. Kids are very good at this with their parents. They've taken it to an art form. It's tempting to flatter someone when you want to get something from them. But it's a form of lying.
4. Exaggeration is another way people lie. They'll tell a story and begin to embellish it a little. Each time the story is told, it becomes more dramatic. Of course, they're always the heroes of their own stories, which show how clever they were or how they came into a situation with just the right words. They stretch the facts a bit. It's a form of lying.
5. Keeping silence is another form of lying. When we hear something about someone else that we know for a fact isn't true, and we remain silent, it's a form of lying. They might be slamming a friend, and we don't stand up for that friend. We don't tell them the truth. That is slander by silence. It's complicity by passivity.
6. We live in a time when moral relativism is the rule of the day, when many people don't believe in absolutes. They don't believe there is such a thing as absolute truth. If they want to be a success and have to steal, lie, or maybe even murder to get there, that is what they'll do.

No matter what the reason may be for lying, no this; **GOD HATES LYING AND LIARS!** But take courage, lying is not considered a '**SIN UNTO DEATH**' as recorded in 1 John 5:17. You have the opportunity to confess and repent unto God and God stands ready to forgive you. If you will say, "God, I'm sorry for my lies and know it's wrong, but I believe that Jesus paid the price for me, and I want to put my complete faith and trust in Him," God will forgive you of every lie you've ever told. He will wipe your slate clean.

Moving forward with the results of this testing, let's add up points for each true. For each true, enter a value of 4.

How did you do? Totally optional, anyone care to share their results (truthfully)?

Notes Shared From: <https://harvest.org/resources/gregs-blog/post/why-god-hates-lying/>, and Blessed Magazine Ministries

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